

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80222
(303) 757-9201



April 25, 2003

The Honorable Wayne Allard
United States Senate
525 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Allard:

We are writing in support of "Fast Act" H.R.1767, the fast fees legislation introduced in the House earlier this month by Representatives Mark Kennedy and Adam Smith. We understand that you are considering sponsoring this legislation in the Senate and support your interest in this legislation.

This proposed bill is consistent with legislation that was enacted last year by the Colorado State Legislature. Our state law allowed us to create the Colorado Tolling Enterprise, which enables the state to collect fees for new capacity on state highways. H.R. 1767 would expand our opportunity to create new capacity on interstate highways as well. The philosophy of H.R. 1767 is consistent with our state law in creating new ways of increasing highway capacity.

With nationwide transportation needs continually increasing, federal government, as well as the states must seek new funding sources to keep up with these demands. This needed legislation provides states the ability to explore a new source in order to fund highway projects.

As you work to reauthorize TEA-21, we encourage you to support legislation that provides greater flexibility to the states as we all seek to improve our highways and meet the needs of a growing state.

Sincerely,

Tom Norton
Executive Director
CDOT

Margaret "Peggy" Catlin
Executive Director
Colorado Tolling Enterprise

/djkl